

Serial No. 10/032,787

Art Unit 1617

plurality of distinct inventive species, applicants must elect one of Groups I to III for examination on the merits, even though this requirement is traversed.

Applicants elect Group I, claims 1 to 25. This election is made with traverse. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the non-elected claims in the future.

Allowance of claims 1 to 25 is earnestly solicited.

July 16, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles N.J. Ruggiero", is written over a horizontal line.

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